



NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

The Draft Site Assessment and Response Plan Is Available For Review and Comment For the Edes B Property Oakland, California



PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: June 20, 2007 through July 19, 2007

WHAT'S BEING PROPOSED?

Habitat for Humanity East Bay (HHEB) is proposing to build affordable single family homes at 10800 Edes Avenue in Oakland. Before construction can begin, HHEB must clean up the property to make sure it is safe for residential use. The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), which is part of the California Environmental Protection Agency, is overseeing environmental cleanup at the property.

The 1.8-acre parcel is in a light industrial and residential area known as Sobrante Park. It is bordered by warehouses to the northwest; Southern Pacific Railroad to the northeast; an HHEB residential development undergoing construction to the southeast at 10900 Edes Avenue (Edes A); and residential housing located across the road to the southwest.

From the early 1920s to 1965, the property was used as a plant nursery. Between 1982 and 1996, the property was purchased by Evans Brothers Construction, which operated a construction and demolition business. The property was mostly used for the recycling of bricks. Debris, ranging from general trash to concrete and bricks, is distributed throughout the property. The site is currently undeveloped.

Environmental investigations were conducted at the property from September 2005 through January 2006. Based on previous investigations soils on the property contain elevated concentrations of lead, polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) and petroleum hydrocarbons that may be a risk to health if the property is used for homes. The HHEB submitted a draft Response Plan that proposes digging up, stockpiling and offsite disposal of up to 570 cubic yards (50 truckloads) of soil.

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT - NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

DTSC evaluated any possible impacts of the removal action for this project, as required by the California Environmental Quality Act. DTSC has prepared a draft Notice of Exemption (NOE) which states that this removal action will not have significant impacts on the environment. The draft NOE is available for public review, along with other supporting documents.

WHY THIS NOTICE?

The purpose of this notice is to provide you with the opportunity to learn more about the project and to provide comments to DTSC, concerning the proposed soil removal action, within thirty (30) days of this notice.

HOW DO I PARTICIPATE?

Your participation is encouraged. Comments concerning the draft RAW may be submitted in writing to Ms. Janet Naito, DTSC Project Manager, 700 Heinz Avenue, Berkeley 94710, or email: Jnaito@dtsc.ca.gov. All mail must be postmarked by 5 PM on July 19, 2007. Emailed comments must be received by DTSC no later than 5 PM on the same date.

WHERE DO I GET MORE INFORMATION?

A copy of the draft RAW and NOE are available for review in the Information Repositories located at Oakland Public Library, Brookfield Branch, 9255 Edes Avenue, Oakland, CA 94603, (510) 615-5725 or the Department of Toxic Substances Control, File Room, 700 Heinz Avenue, Berkeley, California 94710, (510) 540-3800 .

CONTACT:

If you have any questions or wish to discuss the project, please contact Ms. Janet Naito, DTSC Project Manager, at (510) 540-3833 or by e-mail to Jnaito@dtsc.ca.gov. For public participation activities, please contact Ms. Kim Rhodes, DTSC Public Participation Specialist, at (916) 255-3651 or by e-mail to Krhodes1@dtsc.ca.gov. Members of the media should contact Ms. Angela Blanchette, DTSC Public Information Officer, at (510) 540-3732 or by e-mail to Abblanche@dtsc.ca.gov.